

In the short term, though, we need a greater number of 25-40 year olds who have either refereed before or would like to give it a go. The State Referees Coach, Gordon Dunster, is willing to put on a mid-season crash course to bring ex-referees up to speed and to include ex-players who have not refereed before. If anyone is in this category please contact Dunster on 0418 681 796 and hopefully we can improve the situation before the end of the season.

Gordon Dunster is also very willing to run a short course (2 hours on an evening) for club officials who would be willing to learn more about being an Assistant Referee. This would be advantageous when the referee asks the club to provide an Assistant Referee to run the line; not only would the club person feel more confident about the job, but the referee would be more inclined to accept decisions from these people as they have at least had an introduction to the position of Assistant Referee, which is, incidentally, much more difficult than it may appear from the stands. If you would like to attend this seminar (no uniform to purchase, no referee registration, no fee for the game - just a certificate of attendance at the seminar) please contact Gordon on his mobile number. There would not be a fee for this seminar.

If you are more interested in joining with us to improve the situation in the long term or have a suggestion (no rude ones please - we've heard them all before) please contact the *Soccer Referees Commission* at PO Box 50, Curtin, ACT, 2650 or call the Commissioner for Administration, Keith Butler, on 6251 2976 (h) or e-mail me at fulham@canberra.teknet.net.au

TABLE:

1st Grade:

| | W | D | L | B | F | A | Pt |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Belconnen United | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 23 | 4 | 17 |
| Monaro | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 24 | 7 | 16 |
| Weston Creek | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 16 | 7 | 16 |
| Capital City Suns | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 9 | 11 |
| Gungahlin Juventus | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 12 | 11 |
| Canberra Deakin | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 7 | 9 |
| Canberra Olympic | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| Uni of Canberra | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 11 | 19 | 3 |
| Burns Club | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 23 | 3 |
| Queanbeyan City | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 36 | 0 |

Under 23's

| | W | D | L | B | F | A | Pt |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Monaro | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 30 | 6 | 17 |
| Belconnen United | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 40 | 10 | 16 |
| Weston Creek | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 7 | 13 |
| Canberra Olympic | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 9 | 12 |
| Uni of Canberra | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 9 | 11 |
| Burns Club | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 8 |
| Gungahlin Juventus | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 29 | 15 | 7 |
| Capital City Suns | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 25 | 19 | 6 |
| Canberra Deakin | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 12 | 4 |
| Queanbeyan City | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 83 | 0 |

Cosmos Youth

| | W | D | L | B | F | A | Pt |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Belconnen United | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 5 | 18 |
| Uni of Canberra | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 22 | 5 | 17 |
| Gungahlin Juventus | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 25 | 4 | 15 |
| Canberra Deakin | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 17 | 11 |
| Weston Creek | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 16 | 13 | 9 |
| Monaro | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 14 | 14 | 9 |
| Capital City Suns | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 18 | 5 |
| Burns Club | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 16 | 3 |
| Canberra Olympic | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 27 | 3 |
| Queanbeyan City | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 2 |

Chris Conti

Commissioner for Senior Soccer, *Soccer Referees Canberra*

CANBERRA SOCCER NEWS

Issue 6 - 30th May 1999

EDITORIAL

A packed issue this week with the main topic of discussion taken by Chris Conti of the Referees.

Included as well is the full ACT Schoolboys Squad. See later on in this issue.

So, the big news of the week are a couple of signings. Deakin have gained the most with Ivan Zelic returning after some years in the National League.

But just as important is the transfer of Zoran Glavinic from Capital City Suns to Canberra Deakin. Zoran will help new coach Bernie Lustica.

Another ex-Cosmos player to return to the local leagues is Michael Musitano, who has been signed by Monaro. Monaro's next opponent is Canberra Deakin.

The ACT Rockets are preparing themselves for the clash in Wollongong against Illawarra. The date of Monday 14th June has been set, but no venue or time as of yet.

Meanwhile, the Rockets will play a match against the AIS on this Wednesday at the AIS back pitch. Kickoff is 5:30pm.

Enjoy your soccer,

Nick Guoth

SOCCER REFEREES CANBERRA

There has been a lot of space given recently in CSN to the shortage of referees this season in the ACT, and it is true to say that more games than we would like have not had official referees in the centre. There are a number of reasons why, this year, *Soccer Referees Canberra* cannot put a full complement of officials on every game:

- There are more games this year to cover
- In the last few years a higher number of experienced referees than usual retired
- More referees are moving into the coaching or managerial ranks
- With the growth in Masters Football fewer older players are retiring from playing and taking up refereeing
- With the recent restructure of the ACT Referees Divisions there are a number of administrative problems which have not yet been solved and are causing some distress amongst the referees

It is also true that we have a good and growing number of younger up and coming referees in the 16-20 age bracket, but many of these youngsters are not yet ready for Premier League or State League games, and many of them are still courting a playing career - we could name at least half a dozen 17-18 year olds playing Premier League who have refereed juniors for a number of years but now prefer to play. And who can blame them!

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UNI'S DEFENCE CAPITULATES

The University of Canberra were their own worst enemy in their match against Monaro at Riverside Stadium.

The defence found all too many different ways to give the ball away and Monaro capitalised on this with Danny Macor being the most significant benefactor. In fact Macor had a hand in all of Monaro's goals.

Monaro won the game 5-2, but leading 4-0 at the break meant the game was all but over and one could see the players move into cruise-mode.

The writing was on the wall early when Uni 'keeper Chris Freeman was needed to pull off two one-on-one saves, both from the feet of Macor.

Then in the ninth minute a corner from Joe Campagna curled into to the far post and needed Andy Wilson to head off the line and over for another corner.

Only Macor had learnt from this as the exact same corner came over again and this time he was the one with the header, and to score.

At the quarter of the hour mark the ball fell to Macor on the side of the box. He managed to turn his defender and put in a pin-point cross for Jimmy Baxter to head home.

Laz Simconov found himself in exactly the same position just prior to half-hour mark. He also turned his defender but this time sent a pass to Macor who with plenty of time picked his spot to make it three.

It wasn't until just past the half-hour mark that Uni had their first threatening shot at goal. A Simon Foxhill cross found Dominic Bartone and his header went agonisingly wide.

In the last 5 minutes of the half, substitute Nick Behr proved himself as the saviour when twice he kicked the ball off the line with the 'keeper beaten. The first denied Simeonov and the second Macor.

Meanwhile in between these two bouts of heroics, a corner kick from Campagna came out to Brent Chick. His shot became a pass when Macor intercepted turned and placed the ball to secure his hatrick.

The Uni dressing room was not a place for the calm and collected and the obvious tirade worked wonders.

Just under 30 seconds had gone when Foxhill was able to beat his defender near the corner and sent a ball to the far post for Bartone to finish.

On the hour Monaro notched their fifth and final goal. A free kick from Macor, off to the left of the box, found substitute Danny Serena to head on over the the rest of the pack and the keeper.

Football Connection

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QUEANBEYAN'S WOES CONTINUE

by Greg Welsh

Goals either side of half-time by Cosmos recruit Danny Burt proved not enough for Queanbeyan City, as Canberra Deakin gave the ACT Premier League strugglers a 6-2 thumping at Deakin Oval on Sunday.

Speculation before the game centred on how the Deakin side would respond to the mid-week sacking of coach Ian Shaw, but the team quickly put these fears to bed with four unanswered goals inside the first half-an-hour.

Deakin's Paul Ivanic had his second-minute strike touched over the bar by the Queanbeyan keeper, but wasn't to be denied three minutes later after good lead-up work by Ben Deighan and David Milin.

Daniel Jukic collected Deakin's second in the 16th minute by following in Deighan's explosive free-kick which Vidovic was unable to gather.

Just four minutes later, Gaby Exposito sent Zoran Talevski into the Queanbeyan penalty area. Despite losing his footing, the striker managed to scoop the ball off the ground and into the net from close range.

Another six minutes passed before an inswinging corner by Anthony Rakic deflected off Burt into his own net, and it seemed Queanbeyan's humiliation was complete.

But Uni were now getting more into the game, fighting for possession and with Nick Behr and Alan Rankine on as subs saw their defence much tighter.

They started to generate more chances. A Bartone low shot went directly at Foxhill who from 5m out and in front of the keeper tried to backheel the ball in but missed completely.

Then a scramble in front of goal saw three clearcut chances go to waste with either the keeper in the way or someone clearing off the line.

Five minutes left and another substitute, Damon Toivonen, raced down the left desperately trying to gain control of the ball. He fooled a defender and with his last touch sent a low cross for Bartone who with some time brought the ball down and scored from 15m out.

Monaro coach Andrew Monterosso was happy with the result. "In the first half we were excellent, but we took it a bit easy in the second."

"John Nelson had an excellent game as did Darryl North. Brent Chick, and up and coming player, also did very well" Monterosso stated.

Rod Lynes said his team were just not learning from their mistakes. "Our defence was all over the place in the first 15 minutes", he said.

WESTON OPEN GAP ON FIELD

However, the Qucanbeyan sweeper restored some pride for the visitors with a headed goal six minutes before the break, and threatened an improbable comeback 11 minutes into the second-half with a shot that deflected past Deakin keeper Pedro Pavez.

But his weary team-mates were unable to follow Burt's example, and the Deakin midfield of Exposito, Milin and Rakic ripped City to shreds in the remaining thirty minutes.

Second-half substitute Anthony Barac scored one of the easiest goals he's ever likely to get after Rakic's left-foot cross found him unmarked at the back post, and Milin completed the rout 11 minutes from full-time when his left foot shot somehow found its way through the arms of Vidovic into the City net.

Deakin co-coach Bernie Lustica was happy with his team's effort. "We asked them to go out there and give a little bit extra to what they've been giving in the past couple of weeks," he said. "They certainly did it. Four goals in twenty-five minutes was just enough to kill the opposition."

While admitting that further improvement is still needed, Lustica said the result was a good one given the circumstances. "When you get in front it's very hard to keep that momentum going," he said. "They did that. They showed me today that it doesn't matter who coaches, they're willing to play for the club, and that's the way it should be. Zoran [Glavinic] and I are very happy."

In the battle between the third and fourth placed teams, Weston Creek Royals came out in front 4-2 winners over Capital City Suns at O'Connor Oval.

The win moves Weston five points clear of equal fourth place.

The scoreline flattered the Suns as it wasn't until late in the game that they scored their two and only after Weston had substituted two of their defenders.

The Suns came out well in the opening 15 minutes, but after that Weston began to dominate. Peter Hader scored the first when he challenged for a header with 'keeper Tony Giannasca, knocking the loose ball home.

A cross from the right hand side saw a mistake from the Suns defence that allowed Steve Lazzari in to score. Lazzari potted the third and set up the fourth when he sent a near post ball for Hami Adhami to tap in.

Capital City Suns pegged two back, one from Frank Giorgi and the other by youngster Pat Phommaseisy.

Weston coach Jimmy Bland was pleased with his team's handsome performance. "We worked extremely hard, especially in defence", said Bland. "Our players have listened and learnt well".

JUVENTUS COMEBACK ROBS BURNS OF SECOND WIN

There was a hard fought game at Majura Oval between two struggling teams, Gungahlin Juventus and the Burns Club.

Juventus came out 2-1 winners, but Burns will feel disappointed after they could not hold onto a 1-0 lead which they carried until there were only 20 minutes remaining.

Sean Madden had put them ahead and all was looking good for their second win of the season, until the defence fell into disarray and allowed Juventus to take the points.

Juventus should have scored in the first half, but for a penalty that wasn't converted.

In those dying 20 minutes, George Cattnach and Yosef Zamora were the scorers for Juventus, but they missed a number of other opportunities that could have been put away.

No one really stood out for either team as both teams battled en-mass, although Niall Stoddart had a good game.

The win puts Juventus into equal fourth place and threatening a move into finals contention. It is evident that the key ACT Academy players are taking a little while to gel with the rest of the team.

OLYMPIC IN DIRE STRAITS

Hawker Oval saw the clash of the two teams that at the beginning of the season were expected to fight out the championship, Belconnen United and Canberra Olympic.

Olympic, seen as the favourites prior to the season's commencement, are now in deep trouble after they succumbed to an injury-time winner from Ray Junna.

The first half saw both teams struggling hard to gain ascendancy. Belconnen took charge of their right-hand side and allowed Olympic to look after the other side.

Marko Perinovic had a couple of good chances, but the nearest he came saw him head the ball wide.

At the other end, Olympic should have gone ahead when Danny Raad beat Jason Dunn and was solo with Rade Kosanovic. Rade was able to deflect the shot and fortunately for Belconnen, Junna was on hand to clear off the line.

The second half settled down with rare chances falling to either team, and then with the game appearing to fade to a scoreless draw, a corner from Scott Manson bounced off the crossbar for Junna to head in.

Bels coach Lino Fiorese said "we contained them well today and defended better. Still the chances need to be put away otherwise we are putting pressure on ourselves".

ACT SCHOOLBOYS SQUAD

The 1999 ACT Schoolboys team to play in the ASSA National Championships in Canberra from 1st-7th August at the AIS has been selected.

At these Championships an Australian Schoolboys squad will be chosen to tour the United Kingdom and Ireland in December, and another squad to tour Fiji in January 2000.

Last year ACT Schoolboys players Heath Gillett (Monaro), Andy Rakic (Canberra Deakin) and Rade Kosanovic (Belconnen) were selected in the Australian Squad which played home Internationals against New Zealand and Wales, and Gillett was selected for the tour to New Zealand and Fiji where the squad played the New Zealand U'23 team and the Fiji U'17 team. In 1997 Shane Lyons (Capital City Suns) was selected to tour South America with the Australian Schoolboys team which included Daniel Watkins now with Northern Spirit, and in 1996 Barney Smith (Sydney United) and Ilija Prenzoski (Canberra Cosmos) toured the UK as Australian Schoolboys with Simon Colosimo (Carlton).

The complete squad is:

Wes Bryett - Erindale College
Johnny Cvetanovski - Lake Ginninderra College
Aidan Griffiths - Marist College
Paul Ivanic - Canberra College
Matt Jullienne - Erindale College
Steven Kemp - Lake Ginninderra College
Rade Kosanovic - Lake Ginninderra College
Luke Morgan - Marist College

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Jade North - Lake Ginninderra
Liam Reddy - Lake Ginninderra
Wayne Shroj - Lake Ginninderra C
Carl Valeri - Mackillop College
Danny Vasilevski - Lake Ginninderra College
Goran Veljanovski - Erindale College
Adam Williams - Erindale College
Philip Yarnold - Lake Ginninderra College

Stand-By Players

Lucas Borucinski - Marist College
David Collins - Copland College
Elias Dimourtzidis - Lake Ginninderra College
Clinton Larfield - Lake Ginninderra College
Amied Shadmaan - Lake Ginninderra College
Brad Smith - Hawker College
Yosef Zamora - Marist College

Officials

Coach: Chris Conti - Kambah High School
Manager/Assistant Coach: Richard Beazley
Physio: Barry Rumble
Development Manager: Tony Buesnal

A number of the players are backing up from last year's squad which went to Brisbane for the National Championships (Griffiths, Kosanovic, Williams, Yarnold and Larfield), while Morgan was in the 1997 ACT Schoolboys squad which contested the Championships in Adelaide. This year's squad also features a number of AIS players, including current Joeys, Wayne Shroj and Jade North and a number of ACT Academy players. One of the youngest players to have been chosen for the ACT Schoolboys in a number of years is Carl Valeri.

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We do, however, have an elite group of young referees who are nearly ready to follow Ben Williams, Ben Wilson and Gavin Martin into the Ericsson Cup, via the National Youth League. But these guys are still learning their trade, and you will find them refereeing in the Premier League U'19 competitions.

Soccer Referees Canberra are having discussions with *Soccer Canberra* in order to improve the situation for the long term; strategies considered include

- offering a greater financial incentive to referee
- eliminating the ignorant unwarranted criticisms by club officials
- ensuring the referees are fully protected from unprovoked assaults
- all Masters teams have a number of qualified referees amongst their ranks and teams are rostered on to referee other Masters games
- more extensive advertising of the career path for young referees from Rooball to FIFA level

We do encourage the clubs to contribute ideas on how to overcome the problem, for it is in the interests of the clubs themselves to ensure a plentiful supply of well-qualified and enthusiastic referees. We know that some of the other football codes entice referees by providing the referees/umpires course and the uniform free of charge and recompense the referee with a match fee well above what we offer; in stark relief to that, we have to charge people to under-take the course (\$20), charge a registration fee (\$60), an administrative levy (5%) on match fees and a referee's uniform costs at least \$150.

Before many of you jump to conclusions, we are not suggesting that we referee simply for the match fee, and we are not looking for people who only want to make money – if you're merely looking to make money go and work in a bar – you'll earn more and you won't get abused and sworn at for the privilege. But when you look at the facts, an Aussie Rules umpire or Rugby League referee generally earns more than a soccer referee. If you want a better product, generally you have to pay more for it!

We would also remind the clubs that it is their responsibility to protect the referees at all times from attacks (verbal or otherwise) from their players and officials:

- Referees are not cheats – referees are human and make mistakes
- I have yet to see a referee make an illegal tackle on a player
- Referees do not encourage players to get around the rules – referees do not make the Laws of the Game, they uphold them
- Referees are there to punish players and officials who break the Laws of the Game – not necessarily to be liked by players and coaches
- Referees are not robots and may make a different decision on an incident in the same game – this may seem like inconsistency, but very, very few incidents are identical

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